

WEEKLY UPDATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

11MAY 2007

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APACHE BOULEVARD POLICE SUBSTATION

On Saturday, the Mayor and Council dedicated the new police substation on **Apache Boulevard**. This facility will house the department's north patrol unit, traffic bureau, communications and property / evidence. The location of this substation on Apache Boulevard is a continuation of the City's on-going commitment to the revitalization of the Apache Boulevard corridor, and joins other City facilities such as the **Escalante Community Center** and **Fire Station No. 1**.

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THE CENTER FOR HABILITATION

During a recent visit to **The Center for Habilitation** [TCH], city staff had the opportunity to view the impact **Community Development Block Grant** [CDBG] funds have on our non-profit partners. Since 1967, TCH's mission has been to empower people with disabilities. This past year, TCH used CDBG funds to purchase a new 100 hp paper shredder which is the center piece of the data destruction process. What used to take the facility eight hours to shred, now only takes one hour which translates into more jobs for people with disabilities. In one short month of operation in the building, TCH has been able to provide employment to five additional individuals. Over the next year, TCH intends to double the number of individuals employed to just under 100. More importantly, the increased efficiencies of production have allowed TCH to create new jobs. Individuals with disabilities now are being trained to be sorters, material handlers, shredder operators, fork lift operators, driver's helpers, and floor monitors. The wider range of job opportunities means greater opportunities for community employment and increased self worth.

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TAKE ONE FOR THE TEAM

With bragging rights at stake, **Housing** and **Neighborhood Enhancement** challenged each other to a contest of athletic prowess and determination, otherwise known as a softball game on Wednesday. Before the game, both teams and their cheering sections carb loaded with pot luck supplies like chips and cookies, as well as delectable burgers and hot dogs cooked by chefs **Mark Vinson** and **Chris Salomone**.

Jamie Ortiz led Housing's team, with Princess the Pooch supporting the team as mascot. Barry Kissell wrangled the Neighborhood Enhancement team. Both sides took on players from Economic Development, Town Lake and the rest of Community Development. The coulda-been-major-leaguers ran the bases for about four innings before Housing declared victory with a margin of 95+ degrees.

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DAM TO DAM

Row, row, row your boat at the **Stadium Tower Dam to Dam Canoe and Kayak Race**. The race for everyone who wants to try their hand at boating happens Saturday, 19 May, at **Town Lake Marina** [Curry Road south of College Avenue]. This is a great event for challenging coworkers, neighbors, siblings and friends. Kayaks are available for rent.

Boating enthusiasts can try their hand at any of three courses: 5K [3.1 miles], 10K [6.2 miles]. Not competitive? No problem. Do the 1 mile course and still receive the official multi-color race T-shirt and breakfast from **Sweet Tomatoes**. The 10K distance is optional consisting of 2 laps for those that want a longer paddle. Even if you don't want to paddle, there are 12 races throughout the morning that will be beautiful to watch, including dragon boats, outrigger canoes, and crew boats. More details and registration available at **www.damtodamevents.com**.

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